

I claim:

1. A method of allocating payments to each respective one of a plurality of investor accounts comprising:

- (a) defining a plurality of investor accounts,
- (b) obtaining an initial amount from each of a plurality of investors,
- (c) associating said initial amount from each of said plurality of investors with a respective one of said plurality of investor accounts,
- (d) identifying the initial ownership of a patent,
- (e) paying an amount to said initial ownership of said patent upon the transfer of title to said patent to a subsequent owner,
- (f) obtaining at least one payment from said initial ownership of said patent, and
- (g) allocating said at least one payment from said initial ownership to such respective one of said plurality of investor accounts.

2. A method of allocating revenue to each respective one of a plurality of investor accounts comprising:

- (a) identify a patent covering an invention in use by at least an initial user,
- (b) identifying the initial ownership of the patent,
- (c) assessing the value of the patent based, at least in part, on the anticipated future use of the patent by the initial user,
- (d) determining a cash flow stream containing at least one payment related to the assessed value of the patent,
- (e) paying in at least one payment an amount related to the assessed value of the patent in exchange for transfer of the title to said patent to a subsequent owner,
- (f) obtaining the amount paid for transfer of title from a plurality of investor accounts,
- (g) associating with each respective one of said plurality of investor accounts the proportion of the amount paid to the initial owner that came from each respective one of said plurality of investor accounts,
- (h) granting a license to said initial user for the use of said patent from said subsequent owner in exchange for an agreement by said initial user to make at least one payment at a specified time after the payment is made to transfer title,
- (i) collecting at least one payment from said initial user within a specified time after said payment to transfer title, and

- (j) allocating to each respective one of said plurality of investor accounts a portion of said at least one payment from said initial user representing the proportion of the payment to transfer title associated with each respective one of said plurality of investor accounts.

3. A method of allocating revenue to the accounts of each respective one of a plurality of accounts comprising:

- (a) identifying a patent,
- (b) identifying the original ownership of the patent,
- (c) assessing the value of the patent,
- (d) determining a future cash flow stream related to the assessed value of the patent before the time the title to the patent is acquired from the original ownership,
- (e) obtaining title to the patent in exchange for paying not more than the assessed value of the patent to the original ownership,
- <e1> allocating said payment to the original ownership to a plurality of investor accounts,
- <e2> associating with each account the percentage payment for each respective one of the investor accounts,
- (f) granting a license to the original ownership to use the patent in exchange for the ownership's agreement to pay the future cash flow stream related to the assessed value of the patent,
- (g) collecting at least one payment from said original ownership from said future cash flow stream related to the assessed value of the patent, and
- (h) allocating said at least one payment from said original ownership from said future cash flow stream related to the assessed value of the patent to each respective one of said investor accounts.

4. A method of determining a change in value of an owner of a patent estate comprising:

- (a) entering information related to the patent estate,
- (b) calculating a value of the patent estate using a first valuation algorithm,
- (c) selecting a second valuation algorithm having a plurality of inputs,
- (d) inputting the value of the patent estate into the second valuation algorithm,
- (e) inputting at least one additional piece of information required by the second valuation algorithm,

(f) calculating the change in value of the owner of the patent using the second valuation algorithm.

5. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
wherein said step of identifying a patent estate, comprises selecting more than one patent.

6. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
wherein said step of entering an identifier for the patent, comprises entering the patent number.

7. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
entering an identifier indicative of a utility of the patent comprises selecting from a list comprising new product category, improvement on existing product, new process, improvement on existing process, and regulatory compliance.

8. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
wherein said step of using said utility identifier, selecting a first valuation algorithm from a plurality of valuation algorithms, comprises selecting a first valuation algorithm particular to the type of utility associated with the patent.

9. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
wherein said step of entering financial information related to the patent, comprises entering information on the financial characteristics of the an owner.

10. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
wherein said step of determining a value to the owner of the patent using said first valuation algorithm, comprises determining the value of the owner with the patent and without the patent.

11. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
selecting a second valuation algorithm.

12. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
entering information required by the second valuation algorithm.

13. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:  
(a) determine the current value to the owner of the patent using the second valuation algorithm.

14. A data processing system for managing the transfer and allocation of monetary funds between a portfolio of investor accounts held by at least one investor, and a portfolio of at least one developer account held by at least one developer of a portfolio of at least one patent, the system comprising:

(a) recording means for recording data;

(b) means for crediting on the recording means each respective investor account with funds obtained from each respective investor, and for allocating to each investor account a percentage share that each investor account holds relative to the portfolio of at least one investor accounts;

(c) means for indicating on the recording means that a predetermined quantity of the funds from the portfolio of at least one investor account are transferred to the portfolio of at least one developer account upon the transfer of title to each patent of the portfolio of at least one patent from the at least one developer to the at least one investor, and upon the grant of the right to use the portfolio of at least one patent from the at least one investor to the at least one developer;

(d) means for indicating on the recording means that at least one payment is periodically transferred from the portfolio of at least one developer account to the portfolio of at least one investor account; and

(e) means for indicating on the recording means that each payment to the portfolio of at least one investor account is allocated to each investor account according to the percentage share that each respective investor account holds in the portfolio of at least one investor account.

15. The system of claim 14 further comprising computer processor means for processing data; and wherein the recording means is a data disk operatively connected to the computer processor means.

16. The system of claim 14 further comprising computer processor means for processing data; and wherein the recording means is a data disk operatively connected to the computer processor means; and the system further comprises means for processing on the recording means data regarding the transfer and allocation of monetary funds between the at least one investor account and the at least one developer account.

17. The system of claim 14 further comprising computer processor means for processing data; and wherein the recording means is a data disk operatively connected to the computer processor means; and the system further comprises means for initializing the recording means to magnetically store selected data regarding the crediting and transfer of funds and payments to and from the portfolio of at least one investor account and at least one developer account.

18. The system of claim 14 wherein the recording means comprises at least one sheet of paper and means for transcribing data thereon.

19. The system of claim 14 wherein the right to use is an exclusive right to use.

20. The system of claim 14 wherein the right to use each respective patent of the portfolio of at least one patent is an exclusive right to use each respective patent for the term of the respective patent.

5 21. The system of claim 14 wherein the predetermined quantity of the funds represents the future value of the portfolio of at least one patent discounted by a predetermined interest rate applied over a period time extending to the time at which the future value is represented.

22. The system of claim 14 wherein the portfolio of patents further comprises at least one security instrument.

10 23. The system of claim 14 wherein the portfolio of patents further comprises a money market account.

24. The system of claim 14 wherein the portfolio of at least one patent comprises at least a low risk portion of the portfolio and a high risk portion of the portfolio; and the system further comprises recording an allocation, selected by each respective investor, of funds from the  
15 respective investor between the low risk portion of the portfolio and the high risk portion of the portfolio.

25. A data processing system for managing the transfer and allocation of monetary funds  
between a portfolio of investor accounts held by at least one investor, and a portfolio of at least  
one developer account held by at least one developer of a portfolio of at least one patent, the  
20 system comprising:

(a) computer processor means for processing data;

(b) storage means operatively connected to the computer processor means for storing data;

(c) means for crediting on the storage means each respective investor account with  
25 funds obtained from each respective investor, and for allocating to each investor account a percentage share that each investor account holds relative to the portfolio of at least one investor account;

(d) means for indicating on the storage means that a predetermined quantity of the  
30 funds from the portfolio of at least one investor account are transferred to the portfolio of at least one developer account upon the transfer of title to each patent of the portfolio of at least one patent from the at least one developer to the at least one investor, and upon the grant of the right

to use the portfolio of at least one patent from the at least one investor to the at least one developer;

(e) means for indicating on the storage means that at least one payment is periodically transferred from the portfolio of at least one developer account to the portfolio of at least one investor account; and

(f) means for indicating on the storage means that each payment to the portfolio of at least one investor account is allocated to each investor account according to the percentage share that each respective investor account holds in the portfolio of at least one investor account.

26. The system of Claim 25 wherein the storage means is a data disk.

27. The system of Claim 25 wherein the system further comprises means for processing on the storage means data regarding the transfer and allocation of monetary funds between the at least one investor account and the at least one developer account.

28. The system of Claim 25 further comprising means for initializing the storage means to magnetically store selected data regarding the crediting and transfer of funds and payments to and from the portfolio of at least one investor account and at least one developer account.

29. The system of Claim 25 wherein the right to use is an exclusive right to use.

30. The system of Claim 25 wherein the right to use each respective patent of the portfolio of at least one patent is an exclusive right to use each respective patent for the term of the respective patent.

31. The system of Claim 25 wherein the predetermined quantity of the funds represents the future value of the portfolio of at least one patent discounted by a predetermined interest rate applied over a period time extending to the time at which the future value is represented.

32. The system of Claim 25 wherein the portfolio of patents further comprises at least one security instrument.

33. The system of Claim 25 wherein the portfolio of patents further comprises a money market account.

34. The system of Claim 25 wherein the portfolio of at least one patent comprises at least a low risk portion of the portfolio and a high risk portion of the portfolio; and the system further comprises storage an allocation, selected by each respective investor, of funds from the respective investor between the low risk portion of the portfolio and the high risk portion of the portfolio.